

TED KACZYNSKI
to
BEAU FRIEDLANDER

November 30, 1998

Dear Beau,

I am inclosing (as I promised in my last letter) a copy of my most recent letter to Gary Greenberg. Just today (November 30) I received a letter from Greenberg dated November 23, and he still mentions nothing to me about his projected articles in Esquire and the New York Times Magazine. So, again, don't give him any information related to me.

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As for my treatment in Truth versus Lies of my mother's packages and of the Tarmichael affair, if Truth versus Lies were a public-relations effort, your criticisms would be fully justified. I don't doubt that Chapters VII and X will lose me the sympathy of many people. Another of my readers has already raised this point in connection with some of the rougher language that appears in material quoted in these two chapters. Even as I was writing Chapters VII and X, I was well aware that parts of them would arouse a negative reaction in many readers.

However, Truth versus Lies is not a public-relations effort. Its purpose is to set the record straight as truthfully as possible. I realize that in matters like this, "truth" is in some respects not clearly defined; a certain amount of subjectivity is inevitably involved in the way one selects the facts to be reported and in the language one uses to report those facts. But if I were to delete certain material from the

book on the grounds that its inclusion would turn many people against me, then I would be willfully distorting the picture in my own favor. And I'm not going to do that.

I think that many of my more intelligent readers will realize that it wasn't just the unwanted packages that I was angry at: The packages were a trigger that unleashed the anger against my parents that I had accumulated over many years, especially, as a result of verbal abuse during my teens and twenties. I think I make this sufficiently clear on pages 206 (last paragraph) and ~~for~~ 209 (first two paragraphs). If you think I have not made it sufficiently clear, then you can rewrite the latter part of the first paragraph on p. 209 as follows:

"But my resentment was founded not only on the unwanted packages but on the whole history of my relations with my parents. The packages were a trigger that released the anger I had accumulated against them over the years. In my journal I concluded the account of the last package incident with:"

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I think your suggestion that I should apologize to the reader is a good one. Let me know how you like the following, to be inserted between the last two lines on p. 209:

"I realize that the foregoing material will not show me in a creditable light, and I apologize to the reader for the coarse language of some of the letters I've quoted. But it's no harsher than some of the language my parents used to apply to me when I was a Teenager, and in any case I felt I had to include these passages in order to provide a full and balanced picture of my ~~family life~~ relations with my family."

For whatever it's worth, I recall that in one of my meetings with members of my defense team in the line-up room at the Sacramento County Jail, I mentioned an incident in my mid-twenties in which my mother drove me to such a pitch of irritation that I called her a bitch. One of the investigators at the meeting remarked, "If that's the first time you ever called your mother a bitch, I'd say you were doing pretty well."

In answer to the question in the third paragraph of your November 23 letter, when my brother fired me I did not want to get fired. As to your suggestion that I should "provide a more detailed description of the situation vis-a-vis your relationship with your brother..." — my brother's role in the affair, though important, was very brief and simple, and I don't know that there is any more detail for me to provide.

In your letter dated November 23 you do not mention having received the copy of the contract, with comments, that I sent you. I mailed it on November 3, so you should have received it by November 23. This is a matter of serious concern to me, because if that contract has disappeared in the mail, then it is the fifth piece of mail of mine that has unaccountably vanished since I've been here at the ADX.

Anyhow, in case you didn't get the first one, I'm sending you ^{under separate cover} another copy of the contract, with my comments. But please let me know whether you got the first copy, because if more of my mail is getting lost I'll want to file another complaint with the post office.

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My big worry now is the copyright problem. Do you have any news or information on that score? Since my brother plans to sell the book rights to his story (see enclosed notice), it seems less ~~let~~ likely than ever that he would give us permission to use his letters. I've written to Denver and Clarke about finding a copyright lawyer, but they haven't yet answered that question for me. Nor have I heard yet from Professor Goodenough.

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I'm enclosing a copy of a letter that I received recently and that you might find interesting, as it illustrates the way in which many people have reacted to the Unabom case.

→ [Note: this is the letter from

One need not agree with the writer's opinions or with his conclusions about me to find the letter instructive in this regard. I've received a number of other letters of the same general type.

Best regards,

Ted Kaczynski